

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICES**

Examiner : TRUONG, KEVIN THAO  
Art Unit : 3734  
Applicant(s) : Lee A. Core  
Application No. : 10/693,398  
Filing Date : October 24, 2003  
Confirmation No. : 2513  
Title : EXPANDABLE SHEATH TUBING  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY TO FINAL ACTION**

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests for continued examination of the above-identified patent application and file this paper as a submission under 37 C.F.R. 1.114. This paper is responsive to the final office action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 18, 2009. Applicant further requests an extension of time of three months. Accordingly, a response is now due on September 18, 2009, and this submission is, therefore, timely.

Accordingly, Applicant submits a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. 1.114 and the required \$405.00 small entity fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e). Applicant further submits a Petition for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) of three months and the required \$555.00 small entity extension fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(1). Applicant believes no additional fees are required for submission of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 2.